

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

**ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

24 DECEMBER 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cyprus

a. The gunfire in Nicosia continues this morning. Fighting has also been reported from villages outside the city.

b. There are signs that President Makarios and Vice President Kuchuk may have lost control of extremist elements. Their two joint appeals for restraint yesterday went unheeded.

c. The Greek and Turkish military contingents seem to be staying out of it and the commanders are maintaining liaison.

d. The disorders threaten, however, to spread to Turkey itself. If so, this would follow the 1955 pattern when violence in Cyprus was followed by violence against Greek minorities in several Turkish cities.

e. The Turkish government is extremely worried. It is pressing for early joint military intervention by British, Greek, and Turkish forces which is provided for under the 1959 treaty.

f. The Turks want the US to associate itself somehow with this move.

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h. Athens is appalled and in a cooperative mood.

i. Its future course is not clear, however, following the resignation this morning of the Papandreou government. Papandreou had earlier gotten a vote of confidence but only with Communist support which he will not accept.

2. Brazil-OAS

a. Goulart has confirmed that Brazil will oppose any collective OAS action against Cuba growing out of the Venezuelan arms cache case.

b. In his view the matter can best be settled by arrangements between the US and Venezuela, thus avoiding OAS action.

c. We have had a number of indications, however, that if the OAS votes for sanctions which do not involve armed OAS intervention Brazil will--reluctantly--respect its treaty obligations.

3. Czechoslovakia

a. Prague has been buzzing these last five days with a series of top-drawer party, government and military meetings.

b. They have been accompanied by unusual security precautions.

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c. This has all the earmarks of another, and perhaps climatic, round in the struggle between party boss Novotny and his critics.

d. The fall-out we have had from the meetings has been light, but it does suggest that the Stalinist Novotny, whose political fortunes have been declining in the face of domestic opposition and Soviet displeasure, may be losing ground.

e. The course of events in Czechoslovakia, should Novotny fall, is not at all clear. There will be repercussions in East Germany, however, for his departure would leave Ulbricht in an uncomfortable spot as the last reigning Stalinist.

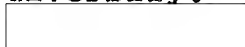
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4. Rumania - Communist China

a. In yet another gesture of independence from the USSR, the Rumanians have agreed to supply aviation gas and jet fuel to the Chinese Communists next year.

b. This will be the first time that Peiping has obtained these products from other than Soviet sources.

c. The Soviets have so far been willing to continue supplying China's needs in this respect, but Peiping has been trying hard to diversify.



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NOTES

A.

[Redacted]

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B. USSR-Cuba

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C. USSR-Cuba The Soviets will be represented at the Castro anniversary celebration early next month by Presidium member Podgorny.

D. France

[Redacted]

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E. Indonesia Sukarno intends to follow up his public excoriation of our Indian Ocean task force plan with demonstrations today before our embassy in Djakarta. We doubt that he will allow the demonstrations to get out of hand as he did in the case of the British Embassy last September.

F. Colombia Military authorities are expecting widespread terrorist attacks during the holidays.

[Redacted]

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G. Haiti Duvalier is still trying to buy arms wherever he can abroad.

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